MARVEL NOW!

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AVENGERS

JOIN THE REVOLUTION

007

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PREVIOUSLY IN AVENGERS

SOMETIMES WHO WE HAVE BEEN OUR ENTIRE LIVES GETS WIPED OUT IN A SINGLE DAY, OR BY A SINGLE EVENT.

THAT IS YOUR STORY, AND THEREFORE MY STORY. AS ALL THE STORIES ARE THE SAME, IN THAT ALL THE STORIES ARE MINE.

I DON'T UNDERSTAND. AS A PROGRAM, I SHOULD BE ABLE TO DECODE THIS. YOU CAN UNDERSTAND HIM. YOU KNOW HIS NAME.

YES, ANTHONY STARK. I KNOW HIS NAME...BUT CLEARLY YOU AND YOUR MACHINES DO NOT.

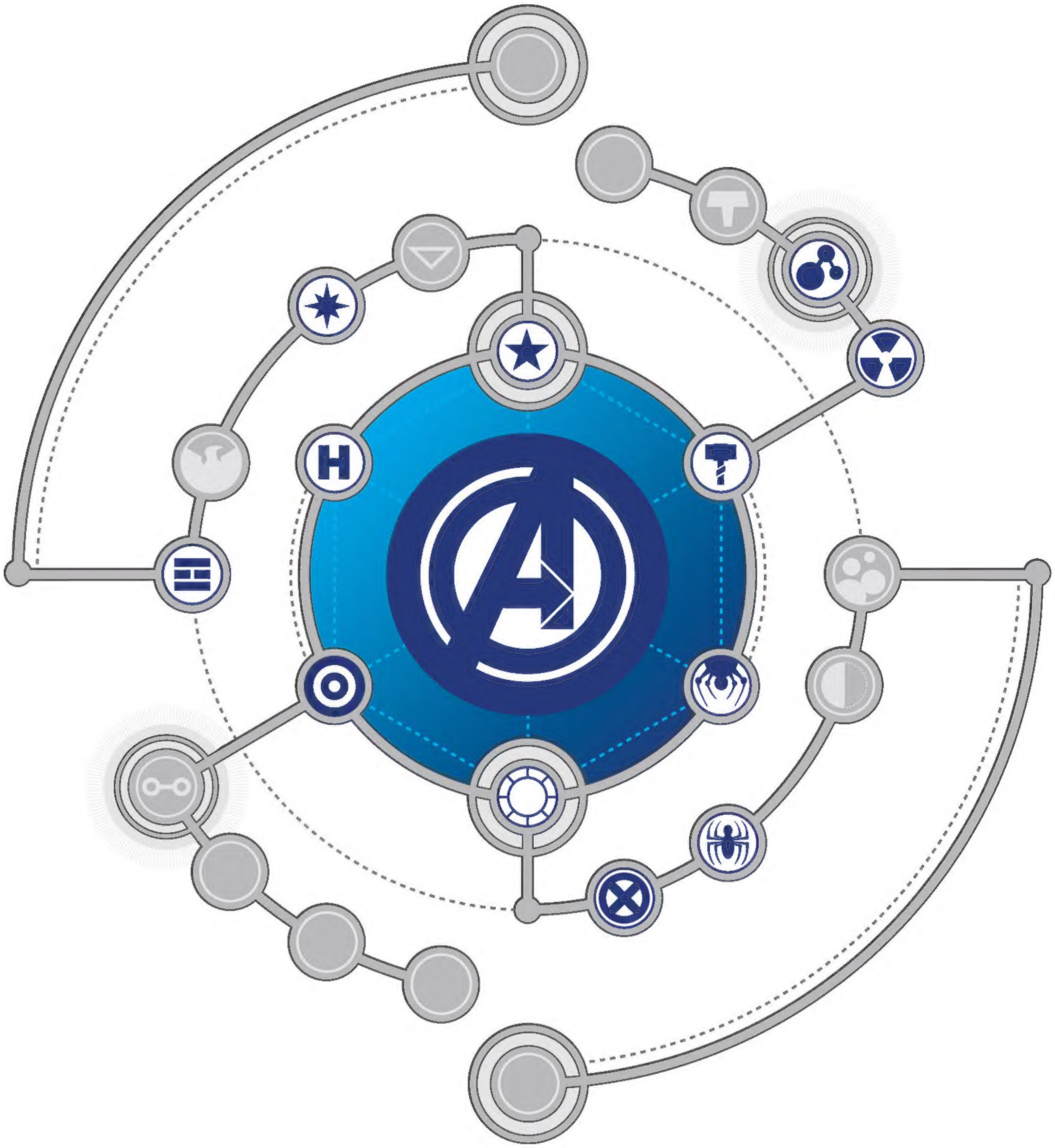
HIS NAME IS NOT BLACKVEIL. IT IS NIGHTMASK.

IT IS HERE.

EARTH IS... SIGNIFICANT. HERE THE LIFE AND DEATH OF EVERYTHING WILL BE DECIDED...SO IT IS HERE I NEEDED TO BECOME SENTIENT.

IT IS HERE...

"THE WHITE EVENT."



EARTH'S MIGHTIEST HEROES

CAPTAIN AMERICA · IRON MAN · THOR · HAWKEYE · BLACK WIDOW · HULK
WOLVERINE · SPIDER-MAN · CAPTAIN MARVEL · SPIDER-WOMAN
FALCON · SHANG-CHI · SUNSPOT · CANNONBALL · MANIFOLD
SMASHER · CAPTAIN UNIVERSE · HYPERION

THE SUPERFLOW.
UNIVERSE 7109.

COMMUNICATION/ ASCENSION STATION 7109--OFF-LINE.

3278-- OFF-LINE.

16908-- OFF-LINE.

219-- OFF-LINE.

FOUR MORE IN THE LAST MINUTE, CARETAKER.

TOTALLING 29,712 IN THE LAST HOUR.

PLEASE EXTRAPOLATE, CURATOR.

3367-- OFF-LINE.

IF THE RATE OF ACCELERATION REMAINS CONSTANT, WE WILL LOSE THE ENTIRE COMMUNICATION/ASCENSION FLEET IN THE NEXT HALF-TRIAD.

OUTSIDE OF THE WEB, IT IS IMPOSSIBLE TO DETERMINE WHETHER OR NOT THE SUPERSTRUCTURE WILL MAINTAIN INTEGRITY.

2187-- OFF-LINE.

27861-- OFF-LINE.

TOTAL COLLAPSE OF THE SUPERFLOW.

ALMOST UNTHINKABLE.

WE NEED A CLOSER LOOK.

SHOULD I ALSO ALERT THE--

NO. NOT UNTIL WE KNOW MORE.

TAKE US IN.

DROPPING INTO DREAMSPACE.

THE NEXUS OF ALL SUPERFLOWS.
THE CENTRAL WEB.

MWWWRRRWW

IS WHAT I'M SEEING REAL?

4380-- OFF-LINE.

24913-- OFF-LINE.

YES, CARETAKER. THE STRUCTURE IS COLLAPSING.

OUR *MASTERS* SPENT ONE MILLION YEARS CONSTRUCTING THIS SYSTEM AND IT HAS EXISTED FOR A MILLION BEYOND THAT.

WHO COULD HAVE *IMAGINED* IT WOULD END?

THE CENTRAL WEB IS FRACTURED. WE ARE ADRIFT, CARETAKER. WE CANNOT ESCAPE.

6081-- OFF-LINE.

20184-- OFF-LINE.

CARETAKER?

YES...

HOW MANY COMMUNICATION/ ASCENSION STATIONS REMAIN?

192.

151.

NOW, 127.

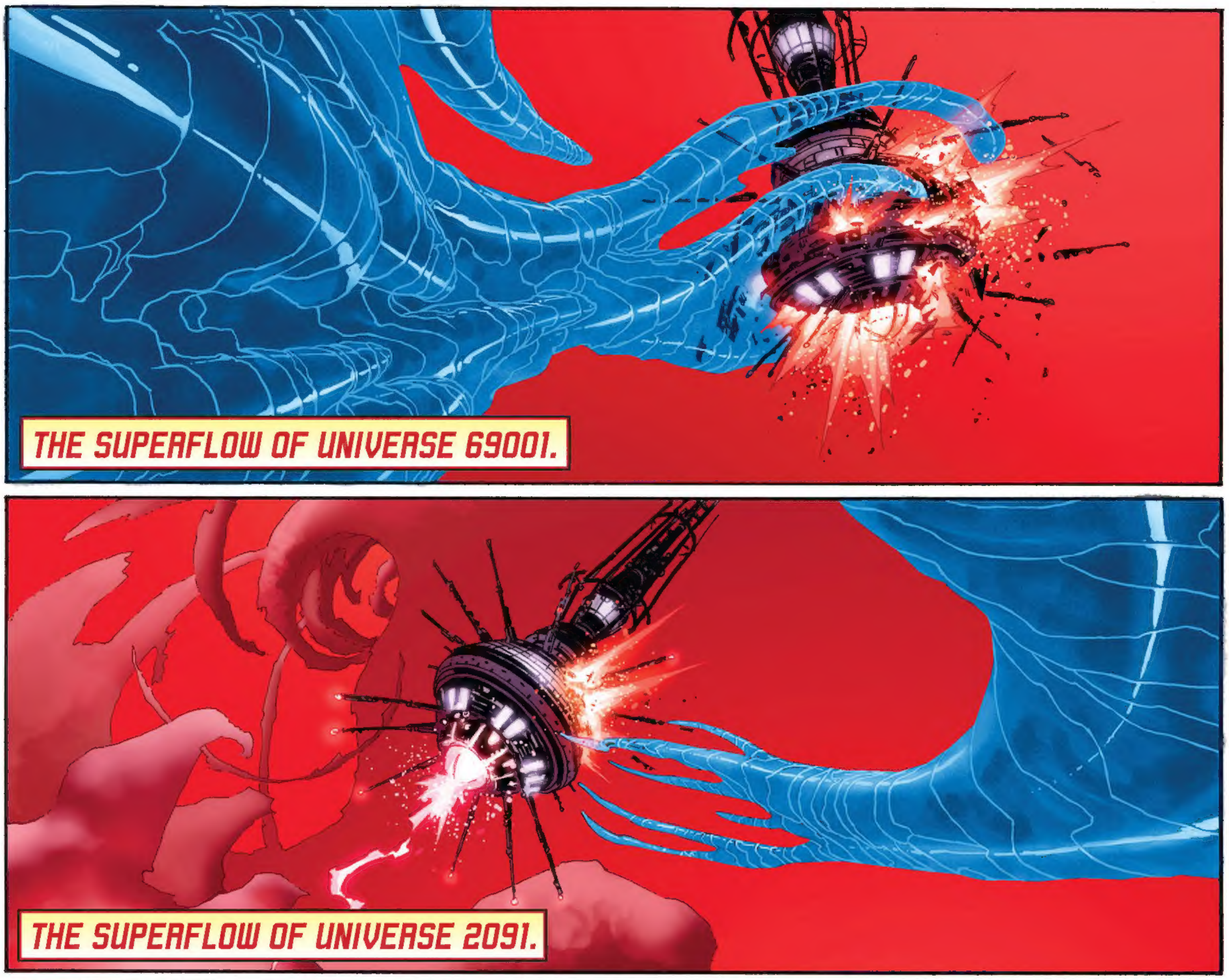
SALVAGE WHAT WORLDS YOU CAN. AUTO-ENGAGE THE SYSTEMS--COMMAND ALL STATIONS TO *FIRE.*

COMMAND ENGAGED.

I HAVE FAILED YOU, *BUILDERS.*

FORGIVE ME.

RAMAWAY


THE SUPERFLOW OF UNIVERSE 69001.
THE SUPERFLOW OF UNIVERSE 2091.
THE SUPERFLOW OF UNIVERSE 3281809.
THE SUPERFLOW OF UNIVERSE 616.

"THE LAST WHITE EVENT"

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AVENGERS TOWER.
NOW.

THE WHITE EVENT.

WHAT?

WHAT DID HE SAY?

THE WHITE EVENT.

THE WHITE EVENT.

MY GOD.

THE WHITE EVENT.

THE WHITE EVENT.

WHAT JUST HAPPENED?

THE WHITE EVENT.

THE LAST WHITE EVENT.

WHAT DOES THAT--

HEY!

STOP THAT!

WHAT ARE YOU DOING?

YOU HAVE MANY TALKING MACHINES.

YES. I *KNOW*. THAT DOESN'T ANSWER THE QUESTION, AND IF YOU'RE NOT CAREFUL SOMEONE'S GOING TO--

NO, ANTHONY... WAIT.

I THINK HE KNOWS WHAT HE'S DOING.

IS THAT RIGHT?

HE WAS MADE TO BE ONE THING...

AND BECAME SOMETHING ELSE.

TELL THEM.

YOU HAVE MANY TALKING MACHINES. I CAN *HEAR* THEM.

THIS IS HELPFUL AS I MOLD THEM INTO WHAT I NEED.

IS IT POSSIBLE WE'RE EXTENDING TOO MUCH GOOD WILL TO THE OVERLY AMBIGUOUS, HALF-NAKED, SUPER=BEING?

NO.

YOU HAVE TO TELL US WHAT YOU'RE DOING.

MAYBE WE CAN HELP?

I HAVE TO FIND THE OTHERS.

FIVE HOURS AGO.

OH GOD, I JUST THOUGHT OF SOMETHING.

WHEN ARE WE GOING TO TELL THEM?

I ALREADY HAVE.

WHAT?

YOU KNOW THAT RECRUITER I WENT TO MEET?

YEAH...

I ACTUALLY WENT TO SEE YOUR PARENTS. WHEN I ASKED THEM IF I COULD MARRY YOU, YOUR FATHER GOT A LITTLE MISTY.

IT WAS KIND OF PERFECT.

IT WAS PERFECT.

THIS...IS PERFECT.

WE'RE SUPPOSED TO BE TOGETHER.

A WHITE EVENT OCCURS WHEN A WORLD IS ON THE VERGE OF ASCENDING ON A UNIVERSAL SCALE.

A WHITE EVENT CREATES/ALTERS HERALDS TO SHEPHERD THIS ASCENSION, AND A NIGHTMASK ALWAYS ACTS AS FORERUNNER OF THE CHANGE.

I AM A *NIGHTMASK.*

THERE SHOULD BE OTHERS.

SHOULD?

WHAT DOES THAT MEAN?

THIS WAS NOT A NORMAL WHITE EVENT.

THE MACHINE IS BROKEN.

THE UNIVERSE IS BROKEN.

FOUR HOURS AGO.

SO WHAT DID YOU DO?

WHAT DO YOU THINK I DID?

I KNOCKED HIS ASS OUT.

OH MAN, I WISH I WOULD HAVE BEEN THER--

SORRY, MAN!

OOFF!

I WISH I WOULD HAVE BEEN THERE.

IT WAS EMBARRASSING.

BUT HE SHOULDN'T HAVE TALKED TO HER THAT WAY...HE CERTAINLY SHOULDN'T HAVE PUT HIS HANDS ON HER.

YEAH, YEAH... VIOLENCE IS THE LAST RESORT OF WHATEVER. BUT, C'MON...

YOU ENJOYED IT.

OKAY. MAYBE A LITTLE.

I KNEW IT!

THREE HOURS AGO.

NO, I'M SORRY. I WON'T BE COMING HOME OVER THE BREAK. I HAVE TO WORK.

MY WORK IS VERY--

NO, FATHER. YOU THINK IT'S NOT IMPORTANT BECAUSE YOU DON'T UNDERSTAND IT.

YOU DON'T UNDERSTAND IT, BECAUSE YOU'VE SPENT YOUR ENTIRE LIFE WORKING AT ACQUIRING THINGS THAT OTHERS MADE.

CHICKEN SANDWICH.

I WANT TO BUILD SOMETHING FOR MYSELF.

I'M SORRY IF YOU DON'T UNDERSTAND THAT ANY MORE THAN YOU UNDERSTAND WHAT I'M DOING IN THE LAB.

NO. NO.

I AM NOT BEING DISRESPECTFUL. YOU JUST--

NEED TO STOP HANGING UP ON ME.

CLICK

WHAT'S HE DOING *NOW?*

TAPPED INTO THE STARKCOMM NETWORK. LOOKS LIKE HE'S ACCESSING THE GLOBAL MAPPING AND BIO-TRACKING SYSTEMS...

I'M NOT EVEN SURE I WANT TO KNOW HOW HE DID THAT.

THE MACHINES LIKE TO TALK TO EACH OTHER--THEY WANT TO HELP ME FIND WHAT I'M LOOKING FOR.

THERE WAS SUPPOSED TO BE A JUSTICE. A CIPHER. A STARBRAND. SOMETIMES THERE IS A SPITFIRE...

OTHERS.

YES.

HERE!

WE MUST GO HERE.

THERE WAS AN EVENT.

OKAY.

IT'S UNRECOGNIZABLE FROM THIS VANTAGE POINT. DEFINITELY SUBURBAN.

PULLING BACK AND ACCESSING STARKCOMM DATABASE.

OVERLAYING ARCHIVED MAPS, AND IT--

OH, NO.

POP

SOUND THE ALARM-- ASSEMBLE THE TEAM.

IT WAS A COLLEGE.

TWO HOURS AGO.

ANYONE WANT TO EXPLAIN THE SIGNIFICANCE OF THIS THEORY?

ALAN?

SURE, PROFESSOR.

IT'S REALLY ALL ABOUT CONTROLLING THE TRANSFER.

SEE, THE CONDUIT IS EVERYTHING. WE HAVE PLENTY OF SYSTEMS CAPABLE OF PROVIDING AN ALMOST UNIMAGINABLE SOURCE OF ELECTRIC CURRENT.

BUT THIS WOULD ENABLE AN ALMOST LOSSLESS RATE OF CONVERSION.

IMAGINE WHAT KIND OF GOOD YOU COULD DO WITH THAT MUCH POWER.

HE SAYS IT'S CALLED A *STARBRAND.*

BOTH THE SHAPE OF THE IMPACT SITE AS WELL AS THE HERALD IT'S SUPPOSED TO PRODUCE...

A STARBRAND.

SO WHAT'S IT DO BESIDE BLOW UP SCHOOLS?

IT'S SUPPOSED TO BE SOME KIND OF PLANETARY DEFENSE MECHANISM.

SO IT'S A MACHINE...A DELIVERY SYSTEM OF SOME KIND?

JUST A PERSON.

SOME NORMAL SOMEBODY WITH THE POWER TO DEFEND AN ENTIRE PLANET.

SCARY, RIGHT?

WAIT UNTIL YOU HEAR THE BAD NEWS.

WHICH IS?

THIS WAS NOT A NORMAL WHITE EVENT.

THE MACHINE IS BROKEN.

I CAN'T BE THE ONLY ONE *HERE* THAT FINDS THEM UNBELIEVABLY IRRITATING.

APPARENTLY, THERE IS SUPPOSED TO BE A SYSTEM IN PLACE FOR SELECTING A STARBRAND...

AND IT'S POSSIBLE, BECAUSE SOMETHING WENT WRONG, THOSE PROTOCOLS WEREN'T FOLLOWED.

IT TURNS OUT THERE WAS A VERY GOOD REASON FOR THESE SYSTEMS EXISTING.

NO OTHER LIFE SIGNS WITHIN A 100 METER RADIUS-- NOTHING. EXTENDING THE--

GOT A HIT.

THERE.

WHY THERE WERE ONLY CERTAIN *TYPES* OF PEOPLE THAT WERE EVER GIVEN THE STARBRAND.

IT'S A PLANETARY DEFENSE SYSTEM.

TO PROPERLY DEFEND A THING, IT REQUIRES AN AMOUNT OF ENERGY EQUALING WHAT'S NEEDED TO DESTROY A THING.

UNDERSTAND?

DEFENDING A PLANET REQUIRES HAVING THE ABILITY TO BREAK ONE.

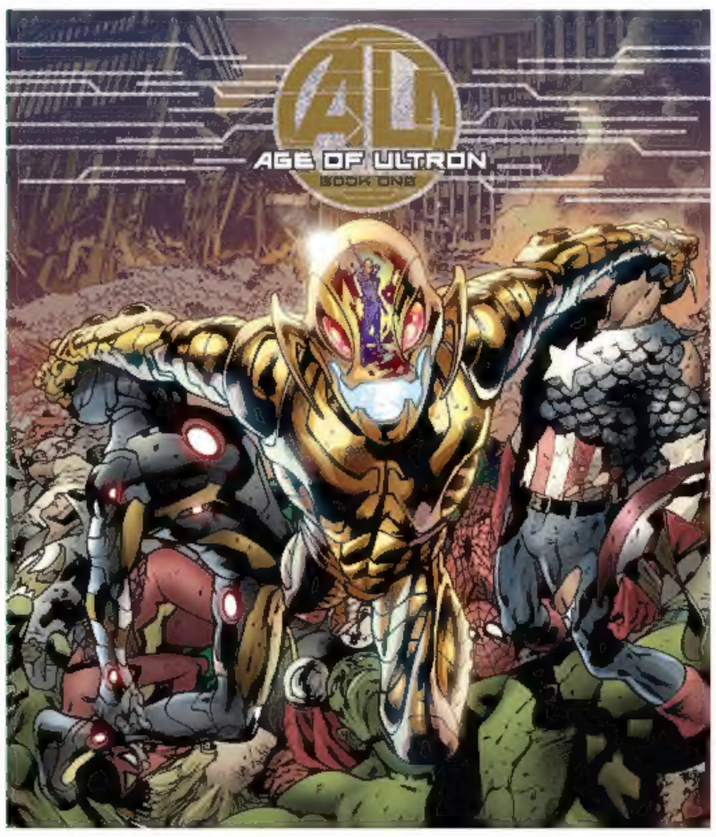
NOW IMAGINE THAT KIND OF POWER IN THE HANDS OF SOMEONE WHO HAS SPENT HIS ENTIRE LIFE BEING IGNORED.

TO BE CONTINUED...

THE ASSEMBLY!

YOUR ONE-STOP NEWS SOURCE FOR ALL THINGS AVENGERS!

It's been a long time in coming—since last year's Free Comic Book Day at least! But at last, it's time to prepare for the **AGE OF ULTRON**—a monster storyline from the mind of Brian Michael Bendis and the drawing boards of Bryan Hitch, Brandon Peterson and Carlos Pacheco! The unstoppable A.I. known as Ultron strikes—and before the Marvel Universe knows what's happening, it's all over! And that's just where the story begins! For maximum excitement, AGE OF ULTRON will be coming at you multiple times each month (the first three amazing issues all shipping in March!) along with dedicated tie-in issues of your favorite titles!



This is the first month in forever that doesn't have a new Avengers-affiliated Marvel Now! title launching! So we figured this would be a good time to catch our breath, go to the mail bag, and get a sense of what you guys have thought about our dramatic creative relaunches:

I really did enjoy UNCANNY AVENGERS #1. John Cassaday's art alone is worth the price of admission.

–Chris Lopez

I just read UNCANNY AVENGERS #1 and I found it fascinating. There are so many great ideas exploited by Remender.

–Arcadio Bolaños

I loved AVENGERS ASSEMBLE #9 and am so looking forward to see what Kelly & Stefano have in store for us. The snappy dialogue and perfect characterization was a welcome breath of fresh air.

–Rachael Sherwood

UNCANNY AVENGERS #1 was AMAZING! SPECTACULAR! UNCANNILY AWESOME! I really cannot wait to see where the series goes and what arcs you guys have in store for us in the future.

–Isaac Orr-Green

LOVE the direction you are taking this book!!!! I wasn't a huge fan of Rogue but she is coming off as a very powerful character, and less whiny.

–Joseph D. Urbick

It has been a long time since I have sent an email into Marvel after reading a comic book but after reading AVENGERS #1 I had to write to say job well done!

–Scott Zachry

While I was a little sad to see J. Hickman leave FANTASTIC FOUR and FF, I´m glad he´s now writing AVENGERS. It´s just what the title needed!

–Iñigo Pm

I just finished AVENGERS #1, and as a 57 year old long time comic book reader, I have to say I was extremely disappointed. While I understand that it's simply the first issue, it seemed unstructured, "overwritten" and confusing with no clear cut point of view.

–Mike Vadis

I just wanted to drop you a line and let you know that I really enjoyed issue #9 of the AVENGERS ASSEMBLE series. It was difficult for me to stifle my heinous giggling at the hijinks of Stark and Thor vs. Spider-Woman and Hulk, and I actually had someone come over to me and ask what I was enjoying so much!

–Nikki N.

I was pleasantly surprised. The art by Jerome Opena has come a long way since UNCANNY X-FORCE #1. Hyperion, Smasher, a new Captain Universe? Pretty cool new members, too!

–Andrew J. Shaw

Just wanted to comment on how great this first AVENGERS issue is. The villains are intriguing and compelling right from the get-go. I love that the writing is drawing from classic religious references like Ex Nihilo. It makes the story and dialogue feel rich and interesting.

–Jenny Tarof

I'm absolutely loving the new era - love Jonathan Hickman's writing, love Jerome Opena's artwork - and I understand that the whole point of this story-arc is for the new Avengers team to save the butts of the old Avengers team. So you de-power Iron Man's armor, and you mind-control the Hulk, fine, fine - but in issue #2, you have Thor hanging helpless wrapped in...vines. Vines, people! Try remembering: he's not 'normal guy plus enchanted hammer' - he's 'Hulk-strong guy plus enchanted hammer.' Yeesh.

–Steve Donoghue

I am glad to see the Black Panther back on the scene and making big moves. He is my favorite character. He's also a great choice to lead the New Avengers.

–Vincent

Wow! This is one of the most beautiful books that I've seen in a long time. It's edgy and simply put, utterly brilliant.

–Brian Chamberlin

I was on the fence about AVENGERS... until I saw Cannonball and Sunspot recruited! Cannonball has been my absolute favorite character for years and Sunspot is next in line. Please let them represent the X by kicking major butt as Avengers!

–Isaac Woodby

I have loved comics since I was a kid (I'm 31 now). I started collecting them again with the introduction of Marvel Now! I have yet to be disappointed. I just finished reading UNCANNY AVENGERS #3 and all I can say is Wow! That was one heck of a fun roller coaster ride. I loved seeing the Red Skull lose his hand and then Thor bowing down and pledging allegiance at the end. I can't wait to see what you guys do with the apocalypse storyline that is still to come.

–Norman Shane Noah

Well, you've done it. You have officially won me over...big time! I just finished UNCANNY AVENGERS #3 and I had to pick my jaw up off of the floor. Not only that, but for the first time in a long time, I can truly say that I have no idea what is going to happen next.

–Steven Taylor

NEXT ISSUE:

STARBRANDED!

AVENGERS TITLES ON SALE:

AVENGERS #7
THE LAST WHITE EVENT!

AVENGERS #8
WHO IS THE NEW STAR BRAND?

AVENGERS ARENA #6
ANOTHER SHOCKING DEATH ENDS THE FIRST STORY ARC!

AVENGERS ASSEMBLE #13
THE BLACK WIDOW STANDS IN JUDGMENT FOR THE SINS OF HER PAST!

DARK AVENGERS #188
AT WAR WITH IRON MAN!

NEW AVENGERS #4
WORLD EATER! AND THAT CAN ONLY MEAN...GALACTUS!

SECRET AVENGERS #2
NICK FURY AND TASKMASTER MUST ESCAPE FROM BAGALIA, THE RED LIGHT NATION!

UNCANNY AVENGERS #6
THOR VS APOCALYPSE AT THE DAWN OF TIME!

YOUNG AVENGERS #3
WHO'S WORSE THAN LOKI? HIS FATHER...

A + X #6
CAPTAIN MARVEL AND WOLVERINE! PLUS, IRON MAN AND BEAST!

ALSO ON SALE!

MARVEL UNIVERSE AVENGERS: EARTH'S MIGHTIEST HEROES #12

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